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ABSTRACT

In this book, various constitutional scholars rewrite the civil rights opinion in Brown v. Board of Education. The scholars focused on how they would have written the Brown opinion in 1954 if they knew then what they know now about the subsequent history of the country and the progress of race relations. The results were presented at a session of the American Association of Law Schools in January 2000, with nine scholars assuming the roles of a mock Supreme Court. Part 1 of the book introduces Brown v. Board of Education, explaining the struggles of the meaning and legacy of Brown, outlining the history of the Brown litigation, and explaining key issues at stake in the case. Part 2 features the contributors' revised opinions (most of whom concur with the original opinion). Two appendices contain the Supreme Court's original opinions in Brown I, Bolling v. Sharpe (which was decided the same day as Brown), and Brown II (decided in 1955), and the Constitution of the United States (selected provisions). (Contains 117 references.) (SM)

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